

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): An electronic endoscope
2 system comprising:
3 an endoscope having a solid-state imaging device;
4 a signal processing unit which receives a signal
5 from the solid-state imaging device and converts the
6 signal into a video signal;
7 a detector provided in the signal processing unit,
8 the detector detecting the type of the solid-state
9 imaging device which sends the signal to the signal
10 processing unit;
11 a directing unit for providing, a switch for
12 ~~accepting a user input to instruct signal processing by~~
13 the signal processing unit, a signal processing directive
14 according to a selection by an operator, the directing
15 unit having a directive displaying unit for displaying
16 contents of directives which can be selected to the
17 operator switch being provided in the electronic
18 ~~endoscope system; and~~
19 a restricting portion for restricting the displaying
20 of the contents of the directives in the directive
21 displaying unit instruction, from the switch, input by a
22 ~~user~~ according to the result of detecting performed by
23 the detector, ~~the restricting portion being provided in~~
24 ~~the electronic endoscope system.~~

Claim 2 (canceled)

1 Claim 3 (original): An electronic endoscope system
2 according to Claim 1, wherein: the signal processing
3 unit includes a main board on which basic features are
4 implemented, and an expansion board which is attachable
5 or detachable to or from the main board and on which
6 extension processing is performed on an image signal
7 processed by the basic features; and the detector detects
8 whether the expansion board is present.

Claim 4 (canceled)

1 Claim 5 (currently amended): An electronic endoscope
2 system according to Claim 1, wherein the directing unit
3 further includes ~~the restricting unit that restricts~~
4 ~~processing restricts handling of~~ a switch on the front
5 panel of the signal processing unit, and wherein the
6 restricting portion further restricts handling of the
7 switch ~~or lighting of an LED on the front panel.~~

1 Claim 6 (currently amended): An electronic endoscope
2 system according to Claim 1, wherein the directing unit
3 further includes ~~the restricting unit that restricts~~
4 ~~processing restricts handling of~~ a switch on the keyboard
5 of the signal processing unit, and wherein the
6 restricting portion further restricts handling of the
7 switch ~~or lighting of an LED on the front panel.~~

1 Claim 7 (original): An electronic endoscope system
2 according to Claim 1, wherein the processing to be

3 performed by the signal processing unit is electronic
4 zooming.

1 Claim 8 (currently amended): An electronic endoscope
2 system according to Claim 1, wherein the restricting ~~unit~~
3 portion further restricts indication of a feature that
4 achieves the signal processing directive to be
5 restricted.

1 Claim 9 (currently amended): An electronic endoscope
2 system according to Claim 8, wherein the signal
3 processing directive to be restricted is enlargement
4 based on electronic zooming, and the presentation of an
5 electronic zooming magnification is restricted.

1 Claim 10 (currently amended): An electronic endoscope
2 system comprising:

3 an endoscope having a solid-state imaging device;
4 a signal processing unit which receives a signal
5 from the solid-state imaging device and converts the
6 signal into a video signal;

7 a detecting means provided in the signal processing
8 unit, for detecting the type of the solid state imaging
9 device which sends the signal to the signal processing
10 unit;

11 ~~means, provided in the electronic endoscope system,~~
12 ~~for accepting a user signal processing instruction,~~

13 means for providing, to the signal processing unit,
14 a signal processing directive according to a selection by
15 an operator, the means for providing a signal processing
16 directive including means for displaying contents of
17 directives which can be selected to the operator; and

18 means for a restricting the displaying of the
19 contents of directives in the means for displaying means,
20 ~~provided in the electronic endoscope system, for~~
21 ~~restricting the user signal processing instruction~~
22 according to the result of detecting performed by the
23 ~~detecting means~~ detecting means.

1 Claim 11 (new): An electronic endoscope system according
2 to Claim 1, wherein the directing unit further includes
3 an LED on the front panel, and wherein the restricting
4 portion further restricts lighting of the LED.

1 Claim 12 (new): An electronic endoscope system according
2 to Claim 1, the restricting portion displaying
3 unavailable directives in the directive displaying unit
4 in a manner that indicates such unavailability to the
5 operator.

1 Claim 13 (new): An electronic endoscope system according
2 to Claim 12, the restricting portion displaying
3 unavailable directives in the directive displaying unit
4 with hatching, thereby indicating such unavailability to
5 the operator.

1 Claim 14 (new): An electronic endoscope system
2 comprising:
3 an endoscope having a solid-state imaging device;
4 a signal processing unit which receives a signal
5 from the solid-state imaging device and converts the
6 signal into a video signal;
7 a detector provided in the signal processing unit,
8 the detector detecting the type of the solid-state
9 imaging device which sends the signal to the signal
10 processing unit;
11 a switch for accepting a user input to instruct
12 signal processing by the signal processing unit, the
13 switch being provided in the electronic endoscope system;
14 and
15 a restricting portion for restricting the
16 instruction, from the switch, input by a user based
17 solely on the type of solid-stage imaging device detected
18 by the detector.